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affected are, like this very region of the Saint Elias mountains, remote from centres of population, and consequently not likely to be observed closely. It is, therefore, not at all impossible that similar changes have occurred in other glacial regions, having hitherto escaped attention.

What the future has in store for the glaciers of the Saint Elias mountains as a result of the cause that has forced some of them forward, is not certain; but it would be surprising if some of the other glaciers of the region do not also advance in the near future. It is, in fact, not at all unlikely that all the large glaciers contributing to form the Malaspina will feel the impetus of the thrust which so far has pushed only the Marvinne forward. In that case the entire Malaspina Glacier will be transformed to the condition now noticed in its eastern portion. It will be interesting and important to watch these glaciers for the next few years; and it is to be hoped that means may be provided for doing this.

## RACIAL AND REGIONAL STUDY OF THE VIRGINIA POPULATION.

BY

G. T. SURFACE.

The distribution of population in a new or old country affords an essential key for determining the factors of geographic control and economic response. In this brief discussion we cannot hope to do more than point out some of the salient facts relative to the establishment, evolution, and distribution of the people of Virginia.

The Indians, who were in possession of the territory prior to colonization, divided themselves into three confederacies—the *Powhatans*, *Mannahoacs*, and *Monacans*. The Powhatan confederacy occupied the Coastal Plain region and southern Piedmont, and consisted of 30 tribes; the tribes inhabiting the headwaters of the Potomac and the Rappahannock Rivers were attached to the Mannahoacs; while those of the headwaters of the James River and the Great Valley belonged to the powerful Monacans. The territory of the Monacans was always referred to by the eastern tribes as "the stony region." From this we see that the aboriginal people were distributed and divided according to distinct economic and physiographic conditions. The tribes of the three confederacies spoke languages so radically

different that interpreters were necessary for the transmission of communications. Each was as distinctly adjusted to his primitive environment as was the Cavalier, the small German farmer, and the Scotch-Irish mountaineer of a century later. The Powhatans and the Monacans were naturally the most densely-populated because their food supplies were both more abundant and more accessible, and the density in any local area was in direct proportion to the ease with which a livelihood could be obtained. Captain John Smith estimated, in 1609, that there were 5,000 Indians within 60 miles of Jamestown.

The only vestige of Indian blood remaining which can be identified with any degree of certainty is that of two small reservations in King William County, and these are considerably more negro than Indian. The larger band numbers 120, and they call themselves *Pamunkies*; the smaller numbers about 50, and they call themselves *Mattaponies*. They are both governed by chiefs and councillors, together with a board of white trustees chosen by themselves. That they can lay some claim to being descendants of Powhatan may be inferred from Thomas Jefferson's reference to the Mattaponies and Pamunkies still occupying, in 1787, small holdings in King William County, on the streams bearing their names.\*

Most of the Virginia colonists of the 17th Century were *English*. Of these a small minority were of the English gentry, while the free and indentured † servants constituted the vast majority. Though these classes were of the same race, they were as widely separated in point of ability and social standing as if they had belonged to different races. They came for the most part from southwestern England, many being from the city of Bristol, and settled on the Coastal Plain and along the eastern border of Piedmont. The Cavaliers did not come in large numbers until after 1649. By 1790 they were estimated to number 250,000 and to represent the majority of the free whites. That almost all of them became planters, and became political and social rulers, is so well known as not to demand a discussion.

The *Quakers* began to make their appearance in 1656, and the first immigrants settled in Nansemond County. As the agitation against them increased, some of them moved to the western Piedmont and Valley region; but they continued stronger in the south-eastern portion of the State than they became elsewhere.

Small parties of *French Huguenots* were introduced in the early

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\* Lecky—England in the 18th Century, Vol. 3.

† Servants bonded for a time service to pay for transportation.

part of the 17th Century for the purpose of planting vineyards and conducting that industry, but their coming was not fostered by the Government until 1700. In this year Colonel Byrd \* negotiated for the landing of 500 Huguenot refugees, who were distributed as follows, according to Brock:† "They appear to have settled at different points; a portion about Jamestown, some in Norfolk County, others in Surrey, and 200 or more at a point some 20 miles above Richmond, on the south side of the James River (Powhatan County), where 10,000 acres of land, which had been occupied by the extinct Mannakin tribe, was given them." This settlement was made a distinct parish by an Act of the Assembly, December, 1700. They were accepted as desirable foreign immigrants because they accepted as a class the religion of the Established Church. The Huguenots were the most intelligent and enterprising Frenchmen of the 17th Century. Many were merchants and manufacturers, and few belonged to the French peasantry, or wage-earning class. Henry Cabot Lodge has attempted to differentiate the American "notables" according to race. He finds that 589 of the 14,243 listed in Appleton's Encyclopedia of American Biography are of Huguenot descent, which would indicate on that basis of comparison a percentage of ability higher than that of any other race. The immigrants to America being largely a select class of tradesmen and artisans, combined with the readiness with which they assimilated the language and religion, gave them a special opportunity for advancement.

The German immigrants during the early colonization of Virginia are usually spoken of as "skilled workmen of the trades," but their immigration did not assume important proportions until after the beginning of the 18th Century. About this time they began to come in large numbers as an overflow from Pennsylvania, where the policy of William Penn was so favourable that more than 500,000 came to that State in 20 years. As a class they were poor, and those who came from England were religious refugees. The land of the eastern part of the State was occupied, and the attitude of these English colonists was anything but generous to *separatists* of any class. The presence of a frontier protection barrier was, however, so desirable as to make their presence in the western part of the State tolerated. Here land was cheapest, and the Great Valley gateway opened directly into it, so it was but natural that the Germans settled chiefly in the Valley and the western Piedmont counties. It is in this region

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\* Lecky—England in the 18th Century, Vol. 3.

† R. M. La Follette. The Making of America, Vol. 1, p. 16.

that we find their descendants in large numbers to-day; and they are, as a rule, industrious, thrifty, frugal, and pious.

More *Scotch-Irish* settled in Virginia in the 18th Century than any other class. This is a mixed race, made up of the primitive Scot and Pict, the primitive Briton, the primitive Irish, but with a larger admixture of the later Norwegian, Dane, Saxon, and Angle. The discriminatory trade laws passed by the Irish Parliament in 1698 destroyed their industrial prospects; and the Test Act of Queen Anne's Parliament, compelling public officials to take the communion of the Established Church, deprived them entirely of self-government. With this they began to migrate in large numbers. They found in Massachusetts a State church to which they must conform to be admitted to citizenship; the Dutch of New York were unfriendly to them; the Germans were localized and in possession of eastern Pennsylvania and Maryland; and the English held eastern Virginia. In consequence, the great majority went west into central and western Pennsylvania, and southward through the Great Valley into the frontier country of Virginia, on into east Tennessee and western North Carolina. So favourable were the geographic conditions that they became the dominant class in the Valley. While the planters of eastern Virginia were living in luxury and ease, with an abundance of time and ambition for political and social pursuits, these hardy immigrants were building houses, clearing forests, tilling the soil, and fighting the ever-menacing Indians. They were brave, brawny, resolute, robust, and industrious. Their experiences in Scotland had been such as to make them brave and self-reliant, and appreciative of the conditions of freedom.

Much of this 18th Century frontier region has, under the touch of skill and civilization, become the garden spot of the State, with the largest wealth *per capita* of any section in the State; but many of the communities are the direct descendants of the first settlers, with scarcely a trace of foreign admixture, and are probably the purest stock in America.

The *Italians* did not become an important part of Virginia immigration until within the past three decades, but are coming now in larger numbers than any other race. Two causes explain this unusual influx: first, the immense Italian immigration to America—200,000 per year; and, second, the unprecedented industrial activity of the State, such as railroad construction, mineral development, and factory enterprises. Most of them are from southern Italy, where the agricultural wages are from 8 to 32 cents per day. They command in Virginia \$1.25 to \$3.00 per day in mining, and \$1.50 to

\$3.00 per day in railroad construction. They are the most migratory of our foreign constituency. They are also the most illiterate, the most subservient to superiors, and yet among the most thrifty and industrious of our common labourers. Their standards of living are naturally low, the majority being of the peasantry who have fled from poverty, congested population, and the oppression of the landlord system. We get very few immigrants from northern Italy, which has that intellectual, educated, and progressive type, so well demonstrated in their development of the Argentine Republic. In Buenos Aires they constitute one-third of the population, and own one-half of the commercial capital of the city.

The *negro* population of the State is undergoing a rapid readjustment in aggregate and territorial distribution. According to the 1900 Census, there were 55,000 negroes to every 100,000 whites, as compared with 62,290 to each 100,000 whites in 1890. The white population increased 16.9 per cent. in the last decade, while the negro increased but 4 per cent. The negro population in the different geographic divisions is distributed as follows in the order of density: Piedmont, Tidewater, the Valley, Appalachia, and the Blue Ridge.

The migration is taking place in four directions: from the State as a whole to northern and eastern cities; from the non-mining districts to the mining districts; from the country to the cities and towns of the State; and from the mountains to the valleys. The population was never large in the mountain sections, but almost all of the few thousands who lived in the mountains have moved out. More than 30 per cent of the total coloured population live in cities and towns, while less than 20 per cent of the white population is urban. The relative decrease in the population is attributed to the high death-rate, and the northern migration—chiefly to Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York. The census returns from ten southern cities gave the coloured death-rate at 30.5 per 1,000 coloured persons, while for the whites it was 17.9 per 1,000 in the same cities. The coloured infantile death-rate is nothing less than appalling—371 deaths to 1,000 children born, as compared with 148 among the whites. The coloured death-rate from tubercular trouble is more than two and one-half times as great as among the whites. What statistics we have on this subject for the years 1820 to 1850 indicate that the coloured death-rate from this cause was less than that of the whites. The causes are too numerous for a full discussion in this paper. The most apparent are—the change from an open-air country life to congested city life, prevalence of immorality

and vice, ignorance of the laws of health, lack of medical attention, and the lack of institutions for antagonizing disease. The economic safety of the white population and the rescue of the negro from physical degeneration demand that the situation receive prompt and vigorous attention at the hand of the Government (State and Federal), of all institutions organized for the purpose of safe-guarding the interests of humanity, and of every citizen and individual who prizes the health of his own family as worthy of protection.

As a factor in the labour situation, the negro is important; but it is difficult to predict his economic future. In Virginia he is drifting rapidly away from agriculture, is generally unsatisfactory in factory service, and many are developing such a marked aversion to domestic service as to be willing to live in poverty rather than engage in it. In whatever service engaged he is irregular, but, notwithstanding this serious objection, is generally considered as the most satisfactory labourer in construction work and mining operations. The same may be said of his services in restaurants and hotels.

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Population statistics supply at least a partial gradient for reading the economic and social conditions underlying them. During the decade 1890-1900, the general population of the State increased 16 per cent., the rural population a little less than 12, and the urban population 22.7. As a rule, economic factors are predominant in the shifting and readjustment of population; but in the case of the negro social factors seem to be of paramount importance. Since each natural division of the State has its own distinct economic environment, it will be interesting to examine into the human response as expressed by the redistribution which is in progress. The average increase in Tidewater was (1890-1900) 14.1 per cent., this being exclusive of incorporated towns. This evidences a normal healthful growth in the development of agriculture, which is the only rural source of wealth.

Passing to Piedmont, the population curve rapidly descends to an average increase of 4.3 per cent. How shall we explain the relative decrease? In six counties within 60 miles of Richmond there was an absolute decrease, the result of city migration for more lucrative employment than the worn and frequently sterile soil can realize, better educational and religious advantages, and the purchase of country real estate by city investors.

There are only three counties which are situated wholly in the Blue Ridge division: Floyd, Carroll, and Grayson. These are rugged plateau counties, which until recently were 20 to 30 miles

from railroad connection, and in consequence are devoted entirely to agricultural pursuits. The population increased in the past decade 16.1 per cent. From a careful field survey of this region I am convinced that the large increase is due to the prevalence of large families. The small family is in that region the exception.

The Valley has had a normal healthful growth, with an increase of 13.5 per cent. This is the most productive agricultural region of the State. It has for many years been served by a railroad line throughout its length. The productivity of the soil, proximity to shipping points and small towns, and a native population trained to labour with the hands have minimized the tendency toward urban migration.

Appalachia has been the scene of the most phenomenal development, chiefly through the growth of the coal and iron industries. The average increase in population 1890-1900 was 29.9 per cent., and the increase since 1900 has been even greater. Wise County showed an increase of 110.3 per cent.; Allegheny, 75.9 per cent.; Buchanan, 65.2 per cent.; and Dickenson, 52.6 per cent.

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Of the total population engaged in some gainful occupation (536,883), 45.4 per cent. are engaged in agriculture, as compared with 51.5 per cent. in 1880; 15 per cent. in domestic and personal service; 14.1 per cent. in manufactures and mechanical pursuits; 11.2 per cent. in trade and transportation (as compared with 6.4 per cent. in 1880); 2.5 per cent. in professional service; 1.4 per cent. in fishing; 1.1 per cent. in mining and quarrying; and the remaining 9.4 per cent. in sundry vocations.

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## GEOGRAPHICAL RECORD.

### AFRICA.

SUICIDE AMONG BARBAROUS PEOPLES.—In his book "The Lower Niger and its Tribes," Mr. Arthur Glyn Leonard says that in the Brass district of the Lower Niger there are many cases of suicide. One of the commonest methods is to hold the breath, which is done with so much determination as invariably to result in death. While this form of death is regarded by some of the most intelligent chiefs as deliberate self-murder, it is undoubtedly the result of mental derangement due to the impression that the person is afflicted by malign influences. Other methods of suicide are employed in this region. A canoe builder exiled from Brass for some reason, who earned a good living at his trade, was always unhappy because he was not permitted to return to his home, and finally he shot